

News

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FOR RELEASE:

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HIGHLIGHTS OF ST. LOUIS, MO-IL NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY JUNE 2005

Workers in the St. Louis, Missouri-Illinois metropolitan area averaged \$19.31 per hour during June 2005, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman reported that white-collar workers averaged \$22.69 per hour and accounted for 51 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$20.62 per hour and represented 24 percent of the workforce, while the remaining 25 percent worked in service occupations and earned \$10.41 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 292 establishments representing 621,100 workers in the St. Louis metropolitan area, which is comprised of the city of St. Louis, the part of the city of Sullivan in Crawford County, Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis, and Warren Counties, MO; and Clinton, Jersey, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair Counties, IL. Eighty-one percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the St. Louis metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 50 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, computer systems analysts and scientists averaged \$31.39 per hour; occupational therapists, \$23.92; secretaries, \$15.67; and cashiers, \$8.29. Blue-collar occupations included assemblers earning \$20.38 per hour and truck drivers at \$18.27. In the service occupations, public service police and detectives averaged \$20.41 per hour; cooks, \$11.12; and janitors and cleaners, \$9.99.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of a number of occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the St. Louis area averaged \$20.11 per hour, and part-timers earned \$10.59. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$24.08 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$14.90. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$16.03 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$21.68.

The NCS is a part of a statistical program that integrates three previously separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use

such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received, and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the St. Louis, MO-IL National Compensation Survey June 2005 (Bulletin number 3130-47). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Kansas City Information Office by calling 816-426-2481. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm>. Copies of this release can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Kansas City by dialing 816-426-3152 and requesting document 9665.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Kansas City Economic Analysis & Information Office at 816-426-2481 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. c. t.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 2005

| Occupation ³ | Total | | Private industry | | State and local government | |
|--|---------|--|------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| | Mean | Relative error ⁴ (percent) | Mean | Relative error ⁴ (percent) | Mean | Relative error ⁴ (percent) |
| All | \$19.31 | 5.0 | \$18.76 | 5.8 | \$21.94 | 4.6 |
| All excluding sales | 19.72 | 5.4 | 19.22 | 6.4 | 21.98 | 4.6 |
| White collar | 22.69 | 3.9 | 22.26 | 4.8 | 24.02 | 6.6 |
| White collar excluding sales | 24.17 | 3.6 | 24.20 | 4.3 | 24.07 | 6.5 |
| Professional specialty and technical | 28.31 | 3.5 | 28.93 | 3.0 | 27.29 | 8.0 |
| Professional specialty | 29.87 | 3.6 | 30.10 | 3.4 | 29.55 | 7.2 |
| Engineers, architects, and surveyors | 31.87 | 3.7 | 31.92 | 3.7 | — | — |
| Mathematical and computer scientists | 31.98 | 8.1 | 35.48 | 7.3 | — | — |
| Computer systems analysts and scientists | 31.39 | 9.9 | 35.42 | 9.4 | — | — |
| Natural scientists | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Health related | 29.32 | 4.0 | 27.55 | 3.0 | 45.58 | 17.0 |
| Physicians | 61.78 | 4.4 | 60.26 | 13.8 | — | — |
| Registered nurses | 24.90 | 3.1 | 24.91 | 3.3 | 24.82 | 3.2 |
| Occupational therapists | 23.92 | 3.0 | 23.92 | 3.0 | — | — |
| Teachers, college and university | 36.52 | 15.4 | — | — | 29.61 | 15.8 |
| Other post-secondary teachers | 29.89 | 15.4 | — | — | 29.87 | 23.8 |
| Teachers, except college and university | 31.40 | 3.9 | 15.41 | 22.0 | 33.04 | 2.2 |
| Elementary school teachers | 36.61 | .7 | — | — | 36.61 | .7 |
| Secondary school teachers | 35.92 | 4.8 | — | — | 36.24 | 4.8 |
| Teachers, special education | 24.82 | 9.8 | — | — | 24.82 | 9.8 |
| Teachers, n.e.c. | 19.47 | 10.3 | — | — | 17.89 | 13.5 |
| Librarians, archivists, and curators | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Social scientists and urban planners | 29.10 | 15.3 | — | — | — | — |
| Social, recreation, and religious workers | 16.73 | 8.6 | — | — | 16.70 | 10.0 |
| Social workers | 16.77 | 9.4 | — | — | 16.70 | 10.0 |
| Lawyers and judges | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Technical | 22.28 | 3.8 | 25.61 | 5.0 | 9.73 | 2.0 |
| Radiological technicians | 25.17 | 12.7 | 25.17 | 12.7 | — | — |
| Licensed practical nurses | 13.34 | 4.1 | 17.43 | 2.8 | — | — |
| Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c. | 14.26 | 11.5 | — | — | — | — |
| Executive, administrative, and managerial | 32.71 | 7.1 | 33.87 | 8.6 | 27.99 | 11.1 |
| Executives, administrators, and managers | 40.29 | 6.8 | 40.96 | 7.7 | 37.29 | 14.4 |
| Administrators and officials, public administration | 32.23 | 12.6 | — | — | 32.23 | 12.6 |
| Administrators, education and related fields | 42.61 | 14.7 | — | — | 41.64 | 18.9 |
| Managers and administrators, n.e.c. | 47.30 | 5.8 | 47.40 | 5.8 | — | — |
| Management related | 25.46 | 5.1 | 26.83 | 6.8 | 20.35 | 5.5 |
| Other financial officers | 39.19 | 29.2 | 39.86 | 30.2 | — | — |
| Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists | 24.56 | 9.5 | — | — | — | — |
| Construction inspectors | 20.34 | 2.5 | — | — | 20.34 | 2.5 |
| Management related, n.e.c. | 19.69 | 4.5 | 20.75 | 3.6 | 16.09 | 3.0 |
| Sales | 14.09 | 6.3 | 14.11 | 6.3 | — | — |
| Sales workers, other commodities | 10.87 | 5.0 | — | — | — | — |
| Sales counter clerks | 9.80 | 6.5 | 9.80 | 6.5 | — | — |
| Cashiers | 8.29 | 7.3 | 8.29 | 7.3 | — | — |
| Administrative support, including clerical | 14.50 | 3.2 | 14.75 | 3.9 | 13.44 | 2.9 |
| Secretaries | 15.67 | 2.7 | 15.96 | 3.4 | 14.97 | 3.2 |
| Typists | 11.69 | 7.0 | — | — | — | — |
| Receptionists | 12.14 | 3.4 | 12.23 | 3.6 | — | — |
| Library clerks | 11.13 | 5.6 | — | — | 11.13 | 5.6 |
| Records clerks, n.e.c. | 13.88 | 4.2 | 14.17 | 4.1 | — | — |
| Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks | 14.66 | 3.4 | 14.63 | 3.6 | — | — |
| Stock and inventory clerks | 15.72 | 18.0 | 16.01 | 19.0 | — | — |
| Investigators and adjusters, except insurance | 19.56 | 15.4 | — | — | — | — |
| General office clerks | 12.72 | 13.3 | 12.41 | 17.6 | 13.75 | 5.3 |
| Bank tellers | 10.81 | 4.0 | 10.81 | 4.0 | — | — |
| Teachers' aides | 11.95 | 8.9 | — | — | 11.95 | 8.9 |
| Administrative support, n.e.c. | 16.19 | 6.3 | 16.36 | 6.4 | — | — |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 2005 — Continued

| Occupation ³ | Total | | Private industry | | State and local government | |
|--|---------|--|------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| | Mean | Relative error ⁴ (percent) | Mean | Relative error ⁴ (percent) | Mean | Relative error ⁴ (percent) |
| Blue collar | \$20.62 | 6.8 | \$20.88 | 7.2 | \$17.00 | 3.4 |
| Precision production, craft, and repair | 25.08 | 8.9 | 25.70 | 9.0 | 16.94 | 4.9 |
| Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. | 20.28 | 7.1 | 21.58 | 8.5 | — | — |
| Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors | 17.81 | 4.2 | 17.81 | 4.2 | — | — |
| Assemblers | 20.38 | 2.7 | 20.38 | 2.7 | — | — |
| Transportation and material moving | 20.24 | 7.6 | 20.87 | 8.8 | 17.84 | 2.6 |
| Truck drivers | 18.27 | 7.9 | 18.23 | 8.1 | — | — |
| Bus drivers | 16.39 | 3.2 | — | — | — | — |
| Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers | 13.80 | 8.5 | 13.56 | 9.4 | 16.13 | 6.9 |
| Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. | 20.06 | 2.7 | 20.06 | 2.7 | — | — |
| Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. | 15.61 | 18.5 | — | — | — | — |
| Service | 10.41 | 4.4 | 9.44 | 3.3 | 16.63 | 4.5 |
| Protective service | — | — | — | — | 19.17 | 3.8 |
| Police and detectives, public service | 20.41 | 3.4 | — | — | 20.41 | 3.4 |
| Food service | 8.48 | 9.4 | 8.46 | 10.0 | 8.75 | .7 |
| Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders | 7.62 | 30.9 | 7.62 | 30.9 | — | — |
| Waiters and waitresses | 8.07 | 38.8 | 8.07 | 38.8 | — | — |
| Other food service | 8.70 | 6.2 | 8.70 | 6.7 | 8.75 | .7 |
| Cooks | 11.12 | 5.3 | 11.33 | 5.1 | — | — |
| Kitchen workers, food preparation | 9.59 | 5.0 | 9.94 | 4.7 | — | — |
| Food preparation, n.e.c. | 7.11 | 7.3 | 7.06 | 7.1 | — | — |
| Health service | 9.90 | 2.3 | 9.59 | 1.6 | — | — |
| Health aides, except nursing | 11.06 | 8.5 | — | — | — | — |
| Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants | 9.82 | 2.1 | 9.52 | 1.1 | — | — |
| Cleaning and building service | 10.00 | 6.5 | 9.86 | 6.9 | 11.31 | 8.5 |
| Maids and housemen | 8.33 | 3.6 | 8.32 | 3.6 | — | — |
| Janitors and cleaners | 9.99 | 8.5 | 9.91 | 9.5 | 10.62 | 3.5 |
| Personal service | 12.24 | 14.3 | 12.32 | 15.2 | — | — |

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. **Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 2005**

| Occupational group | Private industry and State and local government | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | Full-time workers ³ | Part-time workers ³ | Union ⁴ | Nonunion ⁴ | Time ⁵ | Incentive ⁵ |
| | Mean | | | | | |
| All occupations | \$20.11 | \$10.59 | \$23.80 | \$17.71 | \$19.23 | \$21.03 |
| All excluding sales | 20.36 | 11.31 | 24.22 | 18.04 | 19.64 | 22.87 |
| White collar | 23.32 | 14.82 | 25.71 | 22.15 | 22.87 | 20.49 |
| White-collar excluding sales | 24.24 | 22.33 | 27.62 | 23.54 | 24.24 | 22.26 |
| Professional specialty and technical | 28.27 | 29.06 | 38.36 | 26.42 | 28.31 | — |
| Professional specialty | 29.82 | 30.81 | 35.60 | 28.58 | 29.87 | — |
| Technical | 22.41 | 18.77 | — | 19.19 | 22.28 | — |
| Executive, administrative, and managerial | 33.14 | — | 22.17 | 33.20 | 31.24 | — |
| Sales | 16.24 | 8.24 | 13.11 | 14.24 | 11.97 | — |
| Administrative support, including clerical | 14.59 | 11.91 | 16.51 | 13.99 | 14.72 | 12.22 |
| Blue collar | 21.02 | 9.30 | 24.08 | 14.90 | 20.53 | — |
| Precision production, craft, and repair | 25.15 | — | 28.00 | 19.22 | 25.10 | — |
| Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors | 17.81 | — | 22.23 | 12.57 | 17.81 | — |
| Transportation and material moving | 20.90 | — | 21.14 | 14.86 | 20.24 | — |
| Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers | 14.70 | 8.85 | 16.60 | 10.73 | 13.80 | — |
| Service | 11.14 | 6.78 | 14.41 | 10.02 | 10.41 | — |
| | Relative error ⁶ (percent) | | | | | |
| All occupations | 5.2 | 13.4 | 5.2 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 14.7 |
| All excluding sales | 5.5 | 16.7 | 5.2 | 6.6 | 5.5 | 31.8 |
| White collar | 3.7 | 16.2 | 5.0 | 4.7 | 4.1 | 17.0 |
| White-collar excluding sales | 3.7 | 17.3 | 5.3 | 4.3 | 3.5 | 45.7 |
| Professional specialty and technical | 3.8 | 13.7 | 1.9 | 4.0 | 3.5 | — |
| Professional specialty | 3.8 | 16.1 | 2.3 | 4.3 | 3.6 | — |
| Technical | 4.0 | 14.7 | — | 5.4 | 3.8 | — |
| Executive, administrative, and managerial | 6.4 | — | 10.7 | 7.4 | 6.9 | — |
| Sales | 9.4 | 5.2 | 20.1 | 8.4 | 7.9 | — |
| Administrative support, including clerical | 3.1 | 8.1 | 5.7 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 6.8 |
| Blue collar | 6.8 | 7.0 | 6.7 | 8.3 | 7.1 | — |
| Precision production, craft, and repair | 8.9 | — | 8.0 | 14.3 | 9.3 | — |
| Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors | 4.2 | — | 7.2 | 8.1 | 4.2 | — |
| Transportation and material moving | 6.3 | — | 6.7 | 16.6 | 7.6 | — |
| Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers | 9.5 | 8.8 | 7.0 | 8.3 | 8.5 | — |
| Service | 7.2 | 7.2 | 14.8 | 3.8 | 4.4 | — |

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. **Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, St. Louis, MO-IL, June 2005**

| Occupational group | Full-time and part-time workers | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | All private industry workers | 50 - 99 workers ³ | 100 workers or more | | |
| | | | Total | 100 - 499 workers | 500 workers or more |
| | Mean | | | | |
| All occupations | \$18.76 | \$16.03 | \$19.74 | \$17.53 | \$21.68 |
| All excluding sales | 19.22 | 16.00 | 20.21 | 18.31 | 21.69 |
| White collar | 22.26 | 16.71 | 23.89 | 19.83 | 27.26 |
| White-collar excluding sales | 24.20 | 17.17 | 25.49 | 22.58 | 27.30 |
| Professional specialty and technical | 28.93 | 19.53 | 29.27 | 25.09 | 31.19 |
| Professional specialty | 30.10 | 23.30 | 30.29 | 26.71 | 31.82 |
| Technical | 25.61 | — | 26.29 | 21.15 | 29.18 |
| Executive, administrative, and managerial | 33.87 | 34.45 | 33.77 | 32.03 | 35.11 |
| Sales | 14.11 | 16.14 | 11.82 | 11.63 | — |
| Administrative support, including clerical | 14.75 | 12.40 | 15.66 | 15.21 | 16.03 |
| Blue collar | 20.88 | 20.03 | 21.30 | 18.94 | 24.61 |
| Precision production, craft, and repair | 25.70 | 25.13 | 26.21 | 25.93 | 26.56 |
| Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors | 17.81 | — | 19.08 | 14.96 | 24.90 |
| Transportation and material moving | 20.87 | — | 22.15 | — | 22.15 |
| Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers | 13.56 | 10.92 | 15.14 | 11.85 | 20.01 |
| Service | 9.44 | 8.04 | 9.89 | 9.49 | — |
| | Relative error ⁴ (percent) | | | | |
| All occupations | 5.8 | 8.7 | 7.1 | 7.5 | 13.0 |
| All excluding sales | 6.4 | 11.0 | 7.5 | 7.2 | 13.0 |
| White collar | 4.8 | 5.5 | 5.1 | 10.2 | 4.9 |
| White-collar excluding sales | 4.3 | 9.8 | 4.3 | 7.2 | 5.0 |
| Professional specialty and technical | 3.0 | 21.4 | 3.0 | 7.3 | 4.5 |
| Professional specialty | 3.4 | 24.4 | 3.2 | 9.1 | 4.2 |
| Technical | 5.0 | — | 5.3 | 6.0 | 8.2 |
| Executive, administrative, and managerial | 8.6 | 15.5 | 9.8 | 12.9 | 11.4 |
| Sales | 6.3 | 8.1 | 8.3 | 8.3 | — |
| Administrative support, including clerical | 3.9 | 7.7 | 3.8 | 8.0 | 4.7 |
| Blue collar | 7.2 | 16.9 | 5.5 | 9.8 | 2.4 |
| Precision production, craft, and repair | 9.0 | 14.2 | 5.4 | 9.3 | 3.5 |
| Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors | 4.2 | — | 11.8 | 5.9 | 1.4 |
| Transportation and material moving | 8.8 | — | 8.6 | — | 13.1 |
| Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers | 9.4 | 9.0 | 10.7 | 15.7 | 7.9 |
| Service | 3.3 | 11.0 | 3.7 | 5.3 | — |

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.